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GSU View

University Newsletters

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Office of Marketing and Communications

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January 5, 2015

Vol. 13, Issue 1

IMPORTANT: Winter Weather Advisory

As of 11:47am CST on January 5, 2015, the National Weather Services issued a Winter Weather Advisory. This weather advisory is calling for 2-5 inches of snow accumulating overnight. **The university is prepared to handle these adverse weather conditions and intends to be open for normal operations tomorrow.** Should local weather conditions change that cause the university to close or delay opening, the university will:

1. Post a message on the front page of university's website: www.govst.edu;
2. Notify the Emergency Closing Center www.emergencyclosingcenter.com; and
3. Send an email to your GSU email account and a text message to the phone number that you have on file with the university.

IMPORTANT: Is Your Contact Information Up to Date?

It's critical that your contact information is up to date so we can keep you informed. Please make sure that GSU has your current contact information.

If you are a student: Please complete a *Change of Student Information* form and submit it to the Registrar's Office. This form is available online at http://www.govst.edu/Admissions/Registration_and_Enrollment/Student_Information_Change_Forms/. You may submit the completed form including a copy of your picture ID via fax to the Registrar's Office at 708.534.1640 or you may drop it off in person at C-1300. If you have any questions, please contact the Registrar's Office at 708.534.4500 or by email at Regoffice@govst.edu

If you are a faculty or staff member: Please complete a *Name / Address / Phone Change* form and submit it to Human Resources. This form is available in the myGSU portal at <https://mygsu.govst.edu/facultystaffinformation/HR/Pages/EmployeeForms.aspx>. You may submit the completed form to the Human resources Department, C-1360 or electronically send the form via email. If you have any questions, please contact Human Resources at 708.534.4100 or by email at GSU-HR@govst.edu.

2015 MLK Commemoration Program

The 2015 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration at Governors State University will be held on Monday, January 26, 2015, in the Center for Performing Arts starting promptly at 10:00 a.m. and ending at approximately 11:30 a.m. We cordially invite the campus community to join us for this important occasion. The program will provide an opportunity for all to obtain a greater understanding and appreciation of how the vision

and actions of Dr. King impacted the entire country, and the world. This program will feature university administrators, performances and our keynote speaker is Dr. Tara Jenkins.

Dr. Tara Jenkins is a native of Jackson, TN. After failing a 12th grade course that prevented her from participating in her high school graduation, her educational journey became one of resilience and determination. She is now a 1997 graduate of Clark-Atlanta University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications. She is a 1999 graduate of Moody Bible Institute with a Master of Arts degree in Biblical Studies. Then, in December 2005, she became a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary with a Doctorate of Education in Leadership. Dr. Jenkins is also the wife of Pastor Charles Jenkins, pastor of Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church of Chicago, Illinois which was a driving force in the civil rights movement.



Dr. Tara Jenkins

For more information call x4551 or email diversity@govst.edu.

Black Women Rock



"Black Women Rock" (BWR) celebrates the outstanding achievements of Black female students, faculty, & staff at Governors State University and community members in surrounding areas. Inspired by BET's Black Girls Rock, BWR aims to empower women to pursue their personal aspirations, encourage women to support others who are making positive strides and enlighten women on tools for success.

The 3rd Annual Black Women Rock will take place February 20–21, 2015. BWR has been expanded into a two day intergenerational experience comprised of a resource expo on Friday, February 20th from 10am – 4pm and the annual awards show on Saturday, February 21st at 6pm. This year's theme is "A Celebration of Our R.O.O.T.S. *ROOTS* is an acronym for **R**oyalty **O**pulence **O**rigin **T**riumph and **S**ignificance which reflects the identity, beauty and legacy of Black women. *ROOTS* remind us to honor the contributions of Black women throughout the diaspora past, present and future.

We invite you to submit a nomination for the 3rd Annual Black Women Rock Awards by visiting <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BlackWomenRock>. **Deadline for nominations Thursday, January 22, 2015.** For more information or inquiries please call x4551 or email diversity@govst.edu.

Add Your Program to BLACK HISTORY MONTH

You can take advantage of an excellent way to increase understanding and appreciation of cultural diversity at GSU. Whether you're faculty, staff or part of a student organization, you are invited to sponsor a program for Black History Month and other cultural heritage months throughout the year. This will provide shared learning opportunities to increase awareness, knowledge and competencies that will strengthen our campus community, broaden our understanding of diversity and promote mutual respect and multicultural sensitivity.

Visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/27NGGXS> to submit your program. **Deadline for submission is Wednesday, January 7th.** This opportunity is open to university departments, student organizations and GSU community affiliates. For more information call x4551 or email diversity@govst.edu.

JAX Can Be the Star of Your Next Event



JAX, our mighty mascot, is stirring up GSU pride wherever he goes. While he's most often found in the GSU gymnasium leading the cheers for our winning teams, he can add fun and spirit to both on-campus and community events.

Want to add Jax to your next event?

To request an appearance by Jax , just fill out the form you'll find at <http://www.govst.edu/mascot-request/>

Don't Miss the Last Basketball Games of the Season



The inaugural season for men's and women's winning basketball teams is drawing to a close. Be there to help them extend their outstanding records.

1/19	Monday	M	7:00pm	@ Trinity International University
1/22	Thursday	W	6:00pm	Judson University
		M	6:00pm	@ Olivet Nazarene University

Do you have a BIG IDEA for GSU?



If so, you could win recognition and rewards by submitting it to WHY NOT at www.govst.edu/whynot/. Each month ideas for making positive improvements to processes, services or the environment at GSU will be reviewed and the best BIG IDEAS will be recognized on the website. From those monthly winners an Annual Why Not Winner will be chosen to win a prize and a catered lunch with President Maimon.

Visit the WHY NOT site for the rules of the road, then submit your ideas for positive change at GSU.

FAQ's About Organic Winter De-icers

Now that winter has finally arrived, we would like to let our community know that GSU will be using organic winter de-icers on our property. Below are some FAQs on the procedure:

Why are organic de-icers such as beet juice being used?

Due to the rugged winter conditions last year, rock salt inventories have been depleted in the northern part of the country and there is a shortage. Rock salt is coming from as far as Chile and Egypt to meet demand. Demand has also significantly increased the cost of salt. Current pricing is as much as twice of two years ago.

More focus is also being placed on the amount of de-icers we use in winter and how they affect water quality and the overall environment. The use of de-icers in snow removal operations has elevated the levels of chlorides in the environment. Our ecosystems and wildlife are showing adverse effects from exposure to the chlorides. Campuses and communities are also looking at the deteriorating effect of chlorides on our roads, bridges, and equipment infrastructure.

Why is it more environmentally friendly?

The organic de-icers are produced locally and are a by-product of sugar beet production or in some products, corn or soybeans. They are not toxic to the environment since they do not contain chlorides.

What is it used for?

The products are used to treat rock salt which enhances the melting effectiveness of the chlorides to lower temperatures and reduces their corrosive properties. They are also applied directly to roads and sidewalks as a liquid spray prior to winter storms to prevent the bonding of the snow or ice to the

pavement.

Does it smell?

The products do have a smell that some find bothersome. Some think it smells like “old molasses”.

Will the streets or sidewalks be red or brown?

The road or sidewalk may have a “tea colored” hue to it, but the most noticeable difference will be the brown salt coming from the salt trucks.

Is it sticky?

The beet juice is tacky and sticks to the pavement. In some cases, the pavement can stay treated for several days which enhances overall public safety and responsible salt usage.

Does it stain and is it safe?

It will not permanently stain carpets, clothes, or shoes or harm people, plants or pets unless directly ingested in large quantities. The products will not corrode leathers or suede or metals, particularly compared to the powdery residue and corrosiveness nature of salt towards all materials, plants, and wildlife.

Do you have a story or event you want to submit for the GSU View? [Click here to learn about our submission guidelines.](#)



Governors State University

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